



# Landscape, Democracy and the European Union

Jean-Monnet Online Seminar

## Facilitation

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Seminar website: <http://www.eu-ladder.eu>

Online seminar room: Zoom room invitation will be send weekly

Repository: [https://ilias.hfwu.de/goto.php?target=cat\\_29863&client\\_id=hfwu](https://ilias.hfwu.de/goto.php?target=cat_29863&client_id=hfwu)

## Course Objectives

The online seminar 'Landscape, democracy in the European Union' aims to bridge knowledge gaps between the objectives of the EU's sustainability agenda 2030, relevant EU policies, programmes and instruments in the fields of environment and regional development.

The course aims to support the development of:

- a holistic understanding of the EU's overall vision and strategic goals
- knowledge of how EU environmental policies are made
- knowledge of how the EU's environmental policy links to related but equally relevant policy fields, in particular agriculture and rural development, regional and urban policy and climate action.
- knowledge of how EU policy is related to and complementing with other international/European policy actors in the field of environment/landscape and sustainable development.
- Knowledge of European instruments and funding schemes for sustainable development
- competence to link a local landscape context to the EU's policy framework and to conceive sustainable solutions that make constructive use of EU instruments and funding schemes (such as Life+ and Interreg projects, Natural Capital Financing Facility, Green direct payments for farmers)



## Course schedule

The seminar group meets regularly online on Wednesdays between 14 00 and 15 30 starting on March 31, 2021

### Sessions and thematic overview:

#### Phase A - From Europe to the European Union

- A.1 31/03/2021 Landscape, Democracy and the European Union - Seminar Introduction
- A.2 07/04/2021 Uncovering the European Union
- A.3 14/04/2021 The political environment of the European Union
- A.4 28/04/2021 European Union Policy in the Context of Landscape and Democracy

#### Phase B - Landscape and Agriculture in the European Union

- B.1 06/05/2021 Our landscapes in the light of the Common Agricultural Policy
- B.2 12/05/2021 Greening the CAP in Practice
- B.3 19/05/2021 Development perspectives in agriculture and landscape development
- B.4 02/06/2021 Interim review of individual topics

#### Phase C - Landscape and Regional Development Policy in the European Union

- C.1 09/06/2021 Our landscapes in the light of the Regional Development Policy
- C.2 16/06/2021 Rural Case Study: Regional Development
- C.3 23/06/2021 Urban Case Study: Regional Development
- C.4 30/06/2021 Revision Session
- C.5 07/07/2021 Final Presentation

**Workload:** 6 ECTS over two semesters, or 3 ECTS per semester

## Course requirements

1. Development of a concept map before and after the seminar
2. Regular participation in the seminar lectures. If the schedule competes with other campus-based courses, you can catch up via the seminar recording.
3. 20 minutes online presentation of an individually chosen seminar topic at the end of seminar. Presentations will take place on July 7, 2021



## Assignment 1: Concept Mapping of the Seminar Theme

**Assignment Start:** March 31, 2021

This assignment aims to assess your existing knowledge of the seminar theme. The task is to develop a concept map on the following focus question:

- What is the relationship of landscape, democracy and the European Union?

Before starting the exercise please read this article by Joseph D. Novak & Alberto J. Cañas about Theory Underlying Concept Maps and How to Construct and Use Them. This paper gives a good explanation of how concept maps are conceived and developed:

- <http://cmap.ihmc.us/docs/theory-of-concept-maps.php>

You can use any tool you like for producing your concept map. However, since the result needs to be submitted digitally we recommend the following open source software for producing your maps:

- Cmap Tools: <https://cmap.ihmc.us>
- VUE - The Visual Understanding Environment: <https://vue.tufts.edu>

### Submission Format

Please save or convert your file to a PDF Format. The map should be well readable on an A3 sheet.

Target group: This file will not be shown to the group. The purpose of this exercise is to identify the previous knowledge of the seminar participants and your file will only be read by the seminar coordinator. Therefore, please send your file per e-mail.

This concept map will not be graded. However, the submission is compulsory for completing the course.

**Submission Time:** April 7, 2021



## Assignment 2: Your EU-related Landscape Reflection Theme

**Assignment Start:** March 31, 2021

The seminar participants are invited to actively transfer the seminar topics to their local landscape context and/or to focus on a specific policy field, depending on their personal interest and disciplinary background.

The individual seminar presentations may fall into one or several of the following categories:

- If the landscape is located in an EU country: Analysis and reflection of EU policy fields that have an influence on this landscape (such as agricultural, environmental or regional development policy). You may analyse the effect of policies on this landscape or you explore EU-based development or funding opportunities that might contribute to a sustainable development of this landscape.
- If your perspective is from outside the European Union: Comparison of how policies with an impact on landscape development are done in your country or region compared to the European Union.
- You can also focus on exploring case studies of how landscape-related policy has been implemented across the European Union, for example management and monitoring of Natura 2000 protection areas, cases of nature capital financing, comparative analysis of environmental impact assessment. These topics might be developed in pairs or small groups of students, so you can compare across national cases.

Please communicate your topic to the seminar coordinator by May 31, 2021. We will offer an interim review of your topics on June 2, 2021, during class. The final presentations will be scheduled for July, 7, 2021. (usual seminar time).

Each participant presents his/her topic online in the virtual seminar room. The presentation should not be longer than 10 minutes, followed by 10 minutes classroom discussion. Please present your work in powerpoint format, so we can share the presentation online in the seminar room.





### Evaluation criteria:

- Relevance of the topic: it clearly addresses landscape issues in the context of European Union policy, this includes comparative approaches from outside the European Union
- Coherence and logical sequence
- Reflection and critical thinking
- Good readability of your presentation and good visual quality
- Clarity of speech
- Time management during presentation
- Quality of the discussion

## Assignment 3: Post-seminar Concept Mapping of the Seminar Theme

**Assignment Start:** July 7, 2021

This assignment aims to assess in how far your knowledge has developed in the course of the seminar. Again, the task is to develop a concept map on the focus question:

- What is the relationship of landscape, democracy and the European Union?

You may redevelop your previous map or create an entirely new one.

Format: Please save or convert your file to a PDF Format. The map should be well readable on an A3 sheet.

This file will not be shown to the group. The purpose of this exercise is to identify the knowledge evolution of the seminar participants and your file will only be read by the seminar coordinator. Therefore, please send your file per e-mail. This concept map will not be graded. However, the submission is compulsory for completing the course.

**Submission Time:** July 21, 2021