

International Studies Program



„Europe is built through encounter“

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About EAO

The Europäische Akademie Otzenhausen (EAO) is an independent, non-partisan, non-denominational civic academy located in Saarland in Southwest Germany, locally referred to as the "heart of Europe". The EAO is dedicated to the principles of non-formal civic education. Our aim is to provide comprehensive opportunities for the exchange of information, views and ideas on the most pressing issues of European and global interest.



Study Programs

An “ideal” EAO program involves at least two partner institutions from different countries, bringing at least 15 participants to EAO for 5-12 days to enable them a truly intercultural experience.

We want our participants to fully “experience” Europe and its multifaceted political, economic, social and cultural dimensions, deepen their knowledge of Europe, its role in the world and its international perception actively support the creation of personal networks help further promote intercultural understanding.

- Length: 5-12 days
- Languages: English, German, French
- Number of participants: 15+
- Mono-national, bi- and tri-national, multi-national (with professional introductory intercultural communication training)
- Target groups: university students, young professionals



Teaching Methods

- Expert lectures
- Workshops, Future Labs, Cityrallyes
- Simulations
- Moderated panel discussions with expert guests (diplomats, MEPs, business representatives)
- Round Tables
- Excursions and Site Visits



Program Examples

On the following pages, a brief thematic overview of the topics of EAO programs is listed. The thematic focus of the course can be freely combined and adapted to the desired length of the program, the depth of prior knowledge of participants and their as well as partner organisation's expectations.

All the programs offered by the EAO are tailor-made, so please feel free to contact us for further information and do not hesitate to express your specific requirements regarding the topic, length, other excursion destination, potential partner organisation, and course language.



FOCUS: European Politics (undergraduate-/graduate level)

Day 1	
afternoon (3h session including coffee break)	Milestones of the European Integration Process: The Way from Rivalry to Partnership <i>Introductory Workshop</i>
	Alternatively: intercultural communication training <i>Workshop</i>
evening	Nine-pin championship
Day 2	
morning (3h session including coffee break)	Unity in diversity? EU Policy Objectives and the current political goals <i>Presentation and Discussion</i>
afternoon (3h session including coffee break)	How does the EU work? Institutions and Decision-Making Processes in the EU <i>Simulation</i>
evening	international evening
Day 3	
morning (3h session including coffee break)	European Political Systems: 27 countries - 27 political systems - one Union? <i>Presentation and Workshop</i>
afternoon (3h session including coffee break)	European Union, its allies and partners: Where do we stand and where do we want to go? <i>Lecture and Workshop</i>
Day 4	
	Excursion to Institutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - European Parliament - European Commission - Court of Justice of the European Union - Council of Europe
Day 5	
morning (3h session including coffee break)	International Politics and the Role of the EU: Focus EU Digital Agenda (Part I) <i>Presentation and Discussion</i>
afternoon (3h session including coffee break)	International Politics and the Role of the EU: focus EU Digital Agenda (Part II) <i>Simulation and Workshop</i>
evening	How loud is the voice of EU citizens? Insights to the role of the European Parliament and discussion with the EP member
Day 5	
morning (3h session including coffee break)	Envision our future: How do we see the world in which we want to live? Future Lab and Group work
afternoon	Participants' presentations (audio-visual outputs)

Other Topics

EU Affairs:

- Brussels Effect
- Common Foreign and Security Policy
- EU Digital Agenda
- Energy Policy
- Neighbourhood Policy
- Identity and the EU Values
- Single Market
- Sanction Politics

International Politics:

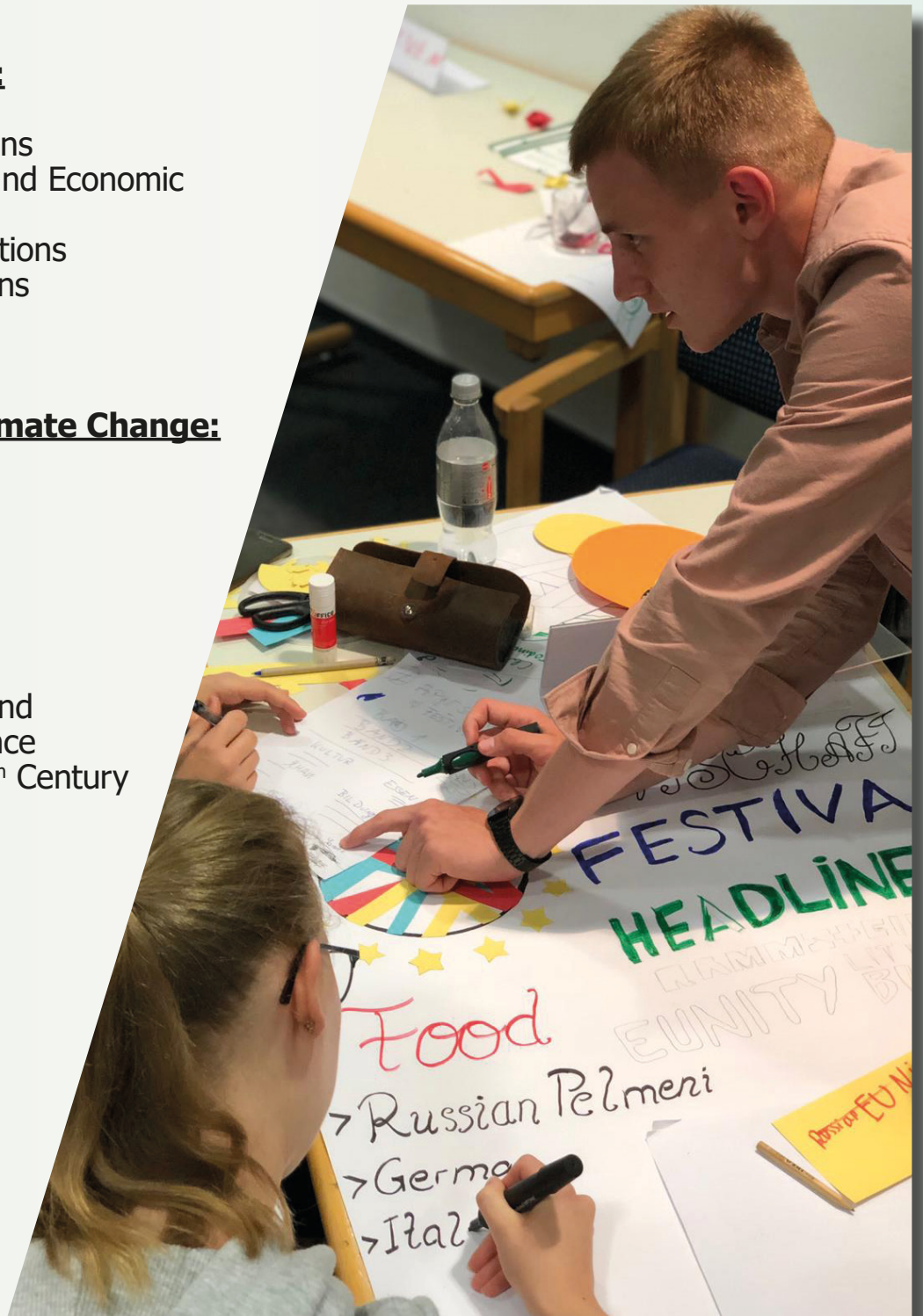
- EU-Balkan Relations
- EU-Asia Political and Economic Relations
- Transatlantic Relations
- EU-Russia Relations
- Geopolitics

Sustainability and Climate Change:

- Green Deal
- EU Energy Policy

Furthermore:

- Data Protection and Artificial Intelligence
- History of the 20th Century
- Fake News and Disinformation
- Populism and Extremism



**FOCUS: Environment and Sustainability, Sustainable Business
(undergraduate-/graduate level)**

Day 1	
afternoon (3h session including coffee break)	Sustainability Concepts: System Earth and SDGs speed dating <i>Introductory Workshop and Discussion</i>
	Alternatively: intercultural communication training Workshop
evening	Nine-pin championship
Day 2	
morning (3h session including coffee break)	Sustainability: Challenges for the Global Citizens of Tomorrow <i>Presentation and Discussion</i>
afternoon (3h session including coffee break)	Sustainability – Today’s Responses for Challenges of Tomorrow <i>Simulation and Workshop</i>
evening	International evening: present your country and one successful environmental project
Day 3	
morning (3h session including coffee break)	Doing business differently: sustainable business good practices: It’s time for a change, which is possible <i>Excursions and site visit I</i>
afternoon (3h session including coffee break)	Doing business differently: sustainable business good practices: It’s time for a change, which is possible <i>Excursions and site visits II</i>
Day 4	
morning (3h session including coffee break)	Sustainability and Governance: Equity in Sustainability and other International Frameworks to tackle Sustainability Issues <i>Presentation and Discussion</i>
afternoon (3h session including coffee break)	Economic Structural Change for Sustainability <i>Workshop</i>
Day 5	
morning (3h session including coffee break)	Envision our future: How do we see the world in which we want to live? Future Lab and Group work
afternoon	Participants’ presentations (audio-visual outputs)

Other Topics

- Climate Change Policy
- Green Deal
- Sustainable Business
- Renewable Sources
- Recycling - Upcycling - Downcycling

FOCUS: Human Rights (undergraduate-/graduate level)

Day 1	
afternoon (3h session including coffee break)	(In)equality - humanity - social justice: what does our society look like? <i>Interactive Workshop and Discussion</i>
	Alternatively: intercultural communication training <i>Workshop</i>
evening	Nine-pin championship
Day 2	
morning (3h session including coffee break)	Human Rights: Who sets the standards and how? <i>Presentation and Discussion</i>
afternoon (3h session including coffee break)	Equality and Diversity as Human Rights: Introduction to the European System of Human Rights Protection <i>Lecture followed by Case-Studies and group work</i>
evening	international evening
Day 3	
	Excursion to Institutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Court of Justice of the European Union - Council of Europe
Day 4	
morning (3h session including coffee break)	Learning Democracy: the ways towards recognition of every individual's equal rights and freedoms <i>Workshop</i>
afternoon (3h session including coffee break)	Learning Democracy: the ways towards recognition of every individual's equal rights and freedoms <i>Workshop</i>
Day 5	
morning (3h session including coffee break)	Learning Democracy: the ways towards recognition of every individual's equal rights and freedoms <i>Workshop</i>
afternoon	What did we learn, what do we take? <i>Future Lab and Group work</i> <i>Presentations of participants' audio-visual outputs</i>

Other Topics

- Identity and the EU Values
- 3rd Generation Human Rights?
- Populism, Extremism, Antisemitism
- History of the 20th Century
- Humanitarian Affairs
- International Criminal Justice, ICC and International Tribunals
- Commission for Reconciliation

FOCUS: Economics (undergraduate-/graduate level)

Day 1	
afternoon (3h session including coffee break)	European Integration as a Economic Project? <i>Introductory Workshop and Discussion</i>
	Alternatively: intercultural communication training <i>Workshop</i>
Evening	Nine-pin championship
Day 2	
morning (3h session including coffee break)	European Single Market and its 4 freedoms <i>Presentation and Discussion</i>
afternoon (3h session including coffee break)	World economic systems and their fragile coexistence: the state capitalism versus liberal economies and the global balance of creditors and debtors <i>Presentation and Discussion</i>
evening	international evening
Day 3	
	Excursion to Institutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - European Central Bank - European Investment Bank - European Parliament - European Commission
Day 4	
morning (3h session including coffee break)	Economic and Monetary Union of the European Union <i>Lecture and Discussion</i>
afternoon (3h session including coffee break)	Economic and Monetary Union of the European Union <i>Simulation and Workshop</i>
Day 5	
morning (3h session including coffee break)	Alternative Monetary Systems: The Rise and Fall of Cryptocurrencies <i>Presentation and Discussion</i>
afternoon (3h session including coffee break)	What did we learn, what do we take? <i>Future Lab and Group work</i> <i>Presentations of participants' audio-visual outputs</i>

Other Topics

EU Affairs:

- EU Sustainable Business
- EU-Asia Political and Economic Relations
- EEA / EFTA
- Multy-Speed Europe
- Brussels Effect

Economics:

- Economic Santions
- Supply Chain Management
- The Future of the Free Trade
- Monetary Policy and Debt Fragility

FOCUS: European Security (graduate level)

Day 1	
afternoon (3h session including coffee break)	<p>European Union as a Peace Project: From the WWII until now and onwards <i>Introductory Workshop and Discussion</i></p> <p>Alternatively: intercultural communication training <i>Workshop</i></p>
evening	Nine-pin championship
Day 2	
morning (3h session including coffee break)	<p>Diplomacy as a political instrument, war as a failure of diplomacy? <i>Presentation and Discussion</i></p>
afternoon (3h session including coffee break)	<p>Eurocorps: Armed forces for the European Union and NATO <i>Excursion to the intergovernmental military corps base</i></p>
Day 3	
morning (3h session including coffee break)	<p>Current Security Issues (Part I): NATO and transatlantic partnership <i>Presentation and Discussion</i></p>
afternoon (3h session including coffee break)	<p>Current Security Issues (Part I): NATO and transatlantic partnership <i>Workshop</i></p>
Day 4	
morning (3h session including coffee break)	International Security Simulation
afternoon (3h session including coffee break)	International Security Simulation
Day 5	
morning	<p>What did we learn, what do we take? <i>Future Lab and Group work</i> <i>Presentations of participants' audio-visual outputs</i></p>

Other Topics

- The Role of International Organisation in Maintaining Peace and Democracy
- Peacekeeping and Peacemaking
- Disputation and Conflict Resolutions
- Securitisation as a Dangerous Phenomenon
- Cyberthreats and Digital War
- Economic Aspects and the Conflict
- Energy Security and Resilience

Excursions

Institutions:

◇ Luxemburg City, Luxemburg

- Court of Justice of the European Union
- European Investment Bank
- European Parliament

◇ Strasbourg, France

- Council of Europe
- Eurocorps
- European Parliament

◇ Brussels, Belgium

- European Commission
- European External Action Service
- European Parliament
- Parliamentarium



◇ Geneva, Switzerland

- International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
- EU Mission by the UN
- United Nations (ITU, OHCHR, UNODA)
- World Trade Organisation

◇ Berlin, Germany

- Berlin Wall
- Bundestag, German Federal Parliament
- Checkpoint Charlie
- Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe

◇ Frankfurt, Germany

- European Central Bank

◇ Bonn, Germany

- House of the History of the Federal Republic of Germany

◇ Saarland, Germany

- Celtic Ring Wall Otzenhausen
- Memorial Path Otzenhausen / Westwall
- State Office of Saarland



Site Visits:

- **Green-Campus Birkenfeld**, the first zero-emission campus in Europe (Birkenfeld, Germany)
- **My Food**, Bio-Eco-Agriculture, smart greenhouse for household (Molsheim, France)
- **Purvegan**, manufacturer of purely plant-based foods from controlled organic cultivation (Ramsen, Germany)
- **Saarbrücken city farm**, solidarity farming on the Saarbrücken city farm (Saarbrücken, Germany)
- **Stahl-Holding-Saar**, Sustainable carbon-neutral steel production (Dillingen, Germany)
- **UPZENT**, Upcycling Centre (Neunkirchen, Germany)
- **Völklingen Ironworks**, UNESCO World Heritage (Völklingen, Germany)
- **Wahlbacherhof**, Sustainable Agriculture (Contwig, Germany)
- **Waste2Value**, conversion of waste into valuable materials by using microbiological processes (Kaiserslautern, Germany)



Social Program

Historical sightseeing

- **Trier**

The oldest city of Germany with Roman Monuments: Porta Nigra, Roman baths, Amphitheatre; Basilica and the Moselle Bridge, birthplace of Karl Marx

- **Strasbourg**

A Franco-German city, a border city between Germany and France

- **Saarbrücken**

A tour with focused on critical consumption



Wine Tasting

- Weingut Schlöder-Thielen, dinner and wine tasting at Longuich, Mosel region
- Weingut Simon Ollinger, Bio - Organic Wine Production, Perl



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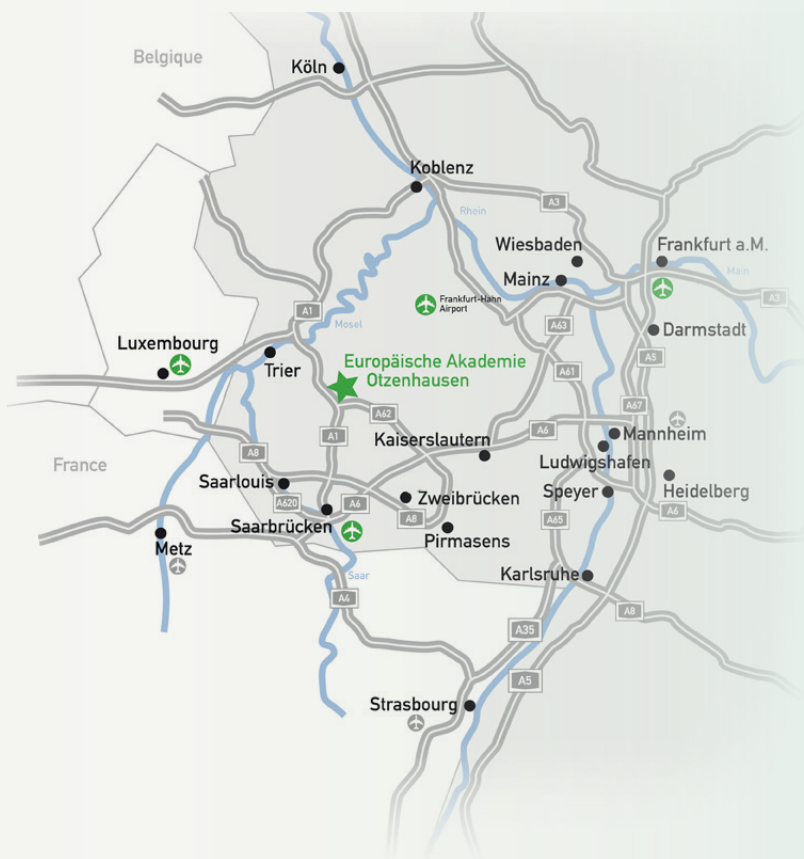
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